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- 1988 Rec file

LOGNOTE -- Chief, Operations Group, 14 September 1988

3. [] is already enjoying her Tel Aviv assignment to the hilt and seems full of confidence. She is glad to have what she calls a super-competent staff, though she notes a problem with chronic turnover in the teleop section. That she ascribes to bureau inability to compete in the job market with a living wage for the commo positions. She wants to discuss position reclassification with Admin Staff and [] as a possible fix to the problem. The Embassy runs fairly frequent wage surveys, but the basic problem is the classification of the function.

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Despite increasing limitations on travel to/from Jerusalem (which [] called a significant change in the quality of an assignment to Tel Aviv), Sandy said there was no noticeable tension in Tel Aviv and that people could still travel, albeit with more bureaucratic hassles. Tourism is as high as ever.

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Contacts with the Embassy are good but markedly more distant than those she is accustomed to from Abidjan. On the classified

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Sandy acknowledged the wisdom of reviewing the need for an infra-red link between the bureau and the Embassy and will await the outcome of discussion here.

Sandy wants to fax some Turkish press from Nicosia to Tel Aviv, where her four-man Turkish staff could help with the northern Cyprus Turkish press. She also notes that with a new TVRO now up in Tel Aviv the bureau could do some Turkish TV. She will be discussing this with MOD and C/NC during the conference.

(cc: D/FBIS, C/MOD, C/AS, EO/Ops)

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